



*City of Northampton
Community Preservation Committee
210 Main Street, City Hall
Northampton, MA 01060*

January 12, 2016

William H. Dwight
City Council President
210 Main Street, Room 16
Northampton, MA 01060

Re: Community Preservation Committee Recommendations for Funding

Chairman Dwight and City Councilors,

In October, 2015 the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) began reviewing eight project proposals submitted for CPA funding. After extensive review including applicant presentations, public comment sessions and committee deliberation the CPC voted to recommend seven funding requests totaling \$454,310.

At its November 18, 2015 meeting, the Community Preservation Committee voted to recommend \$293,000 for five open space and recreation projects, and \$161,310 for two historic preservation projects. Collectively, these projects will leverage \$175,000 from other funding sources, including state and federal grants, private contributions, and volunteers.

The complete CPA applications that include detailed information about each project recommended, meeting minutes, and other project materials can be accessed on the CPC's webpage: www.northamptonma.gov/1048/Community-Preservation-Committee.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself, or Preservation Planner Sarah LaValley with any questions about the projects, the Committee's recommendations, or if additional information is needed.

Projects Recommended for Funding:

Connecticut River Greenway Park, Northampton Youth and Community Rowing \$5,000

This project will fund an entrance gate and signage for the new Connecticut River Greenway Park. Construction at the Park is nearing completion, and the new gate and entrance signage will increase public awareness of this new riverfront resource and allow users easier access.

Rocky Hill Connector Open Space Acquisition, Northampton Conservation Commission and Northampton Office of Planning and Sustainability \$55,000

CPA funds will be used to help protect a 17-acre on Route 10. Located near Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary and adjacent to the Rocky Hill Greenway, the project will protect unique geological

features and wildlife habitats. The acquisition was approved by Council in July 2015, and is the local match for a \$97,200 Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity state grant.

Pulaski Park Renovation, Department of Public Works, \$200,000

CPA funds will be used to continue work to renovate Pulaski Park. This round of funding will be used to continue work to bury overhead electric, telephone, cable and fiber optic utilities that was required as part of the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Grant

Seth Thomas Clock Restoration, Northampton Office of Planning and Sustainability \$30,000

CPA funds will be used to completely restore the historic Seth Thomas Clock that was formerly located on the corner of Main Street and Strong Avenue. Dedicated by Calvin Coolidge, the clock was a downtown fixture for one hundred years. CPA funds were previously awarded for purchase and storage of the clock; when restored, it will be placed at the entrance to the newly-renovated Pulaski Park.

Fitzgerald Lake Boardwalk and Dock, Broad Brook Coalition, \$30,000

CPA Funds will be used to replace the bridge, boardwalk and dock that provide access to Fitzgerald Lake from the main parking area on North Farms Road. In addition to volunteer work from Broad Brook Coalition, the City's management partner for the Broad Brook Greenway, the project will also match a \$50,000 federal Recreational Trails Grant.

Historic Northampton Infrastructure Renovations, Historic Northampton: \$131,310

CPA funds will be used to continue priority rehabilitation work to allow the museum to secure its collections and buildings. This award will allow important electrical work, and roof and window replacement at the Damon and Shepherd Houses.

Mineral Hills Habitat Project, Northampton Office of Planning and Sustainability, \$3,000

CPA funds will be used to remove invasive species and create habitat for endangered turtles at a ten-acre section of the Mineral Hills. Acquired by the City in 2012, this area is a former pasture, and undertaking this work to maintain the historic open field was identified as a priority in Laurie Sanders' 'Rediscovering Northampton 2015'

Thank you,

Brian Adams
Chair, City of Northampton Community Preservation Committee